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Watson, D. K. *The Constitution of the United States.* Two vols. Pp. xlii, 1,959. Price, \$12.00. Chicago: Callaghan Company, 1910.

In one way this comprehensive two-volume work will be found a decided improvement over the usual treatise on constitutional law. In the discussion of the various clauses of our fundamental law, the historical bases, so far as they appear in the proceedings of the convention, are reviewed. This gives a much better background for judging the intent of the framers of the constitution than is possible when only the words of the clauses and the logic of the thought and arrangement are considered. The value of this method can hardly be over-emphasized. It has not, however, been fully appreciated by Mr. Watson. There are few historical references to the period before the constitutional convention itself. The use of the contemporary discussions of the meaning of the constitution which appeared at the time of the adoption of the constitution and in the formative period following is restricted. Failure to give a picture of the constitution as it appeared to the generation which adopted it can hardly be justified in a book which aims to cover, as does this, the "history, application and construction" of the document.

There is a failure also to outline the historical growth of the constitution since its adoption, by which it has become in fact if not in form a scheme of government which in many respects would hardly be recognized by the fathers. The history of the constitution, in a word, cannot be confined to the period of the convention, it goes back far before the Revolution and it did not stop with the adoption of the constitution or with its amendments.

History of the constitution should also include more than judicial decisions. In the discussion of the taxing power, it hardly seems that the facts concerning the Civil War income tax and the argument supporting it should be overlooked. It is not true that representatives to congress have never been elected by territory which has not been given the status of "territory" in the popular sense of that term. The omission of consideration of the "new problems relating to constitutional government (which) are demanding consideration" confines the discussion of the insular cases to a little over five pages. Limitations similar to these are met throughout the volumes.

In arrangement the order given in the constitution is followed. The result especially in the discussion of the amendments is repetition, and to one who fails to bring together the discussion of the parts of the constitution which are connected in thought, confusion.

In spite of these defects, which refer to the arrangement and choice of materials, Mr. Watson's work is valuable. The discussion is scholarly and the historical material within the limitations mentioned is well used. There is a well selected table of cases and a fair index.

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Weale, B. L. P. *The Conflict of Color.* Pp. ix, 341. Price, \$2.00. New York: Macmillan Company, 1910.

This new volume by the author of "The Reshaping of the Far East" might

well have been named "The Reshaping of the World." Its central thesis is that the old European-classic period of world history is ending and that in place of its problems are arising the problems of race conflict in the world area. The five chapters deal with the great ethno-geographical regions of the earth: "How Color Divides the World To-day," "The Yellow World of Eastern Asia," "The Brown World of the Middle East and the Near East," "The Black Problem," and "General Conclusions."

Two fundamental facts account for the changing orders of things. The white races are increasing more slowly than the colored and will soon be overborne by mere numbers in Asia and Africa. The colored races are also gaining self-consciousness and self-assertion sufficient to spur them on to aspire to independence—an independence lost to the whites while they were still "undrilled." Political boundaries are thus being obscured by ethnic boundaries, and future frontier-rectification must occur in those regions where the colored races find their brethren within the borders of white states. The European colonial powers are meanwhile handicapped because they do not present a united front against the greater and growing masses of the colored in the outlying regions. Weale nowhere presents any evidence, however, that there exists a tendency toward a general solidarity among the non-white groups.

White civilization is not adapted to the colored races, and consequently, its institutions would not flourish in either Asia or Africa. For instance, Christianity is not suited to the Asiatic type of mind, nor is it so well calculated as is Mohammedanism to develop manliness among the blacks of Africa. Since Japan's victory over Russia the leadership of the yellow races has fallen to her, and this means the growth of a racial solidarity independent of and ultimately hostile to the whites. In India, England can no longer rule by the old methods. It is interesting to note that the author believes that for the future it will be soldiers or sailors, or better still scientists, rather than classically trained scholars, who will be best suited for Indian administration.

The black race, which has contributed practically nothing to the world's culture, is capable of indefinite multiplication, now that tribal wars and the slave trade have been stopped. Unadapted as the author believes Christianity to be for the African, the Christianization of that continent is nevertheless the only hope for the future of the white race there, since this alone will keep the natives submissive to white rule.

It is, then, the arrested birth-rate of the whites which is bringing on this crisis. France, for instance, is rapidly dropping out of the running as a colonial power for this reason. But Weale seems to forget that a similar decline in fecundity is likely to take place among the colored races themselves when subjected to the same social and economic conditions. His estimates of probable future population must be checked in the light of this most certain change. He also fails to allow for the other social changes that must follow among outlying races when they have absorbed some of the chief elements of white culture. Most of his conclusions are based on prophecy, and it is therefore strange that he should not have been warned

by the instance of Japan's rapid transformation. The immediate effects of this transformation form the basis of his prognostications as to the future of eastern Asia, but it is unsafe to imagine that the immediate reaction will be permanent.

If the book has something of an alarmist note, it nevertheless calls attention to certain real changes in the world's center of gravity that are of vast import. Great forces, hitherto imperfectly organized and therefore unrecognized, are bringing the old antagonism between east and west to an acute stage. Weale is more at home in handling the problems of far eastern politics than in dealing with the other aspects of his subject. His use of historical materials is not particularly happy, and his equipment of notes is often ponderous and not always pertinent.

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Wilcox, Delos F. *Great Cities in America*. Pp. xi, 426. Price, \$1.25. New York: Macmillan Company, 1910.

Dr. Wilcox's latest volume "Great Cities in America" (one of Macmillan's Citizens' Library Series) shows him at his best as a civic pathologist. With great detail he lays bare the faults and shortcomings of Washington, New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, St. Louis and Boston. The author's attitude towards the cities which he describes can best be defined by quoting from what he has to say on the subject of the reputation of American cities:

"What Mr. Bryce describes as the 'one conspicuous failure' of American government has become only less conspicuous during the twenty years since he wrote 'The American Commonwealth' by a growing realization of corruption, extravagance and inefficiency in other branches of government. New York City stands in the fame of the world for Tammany Hall, enormous indebtedness, and corporation domination. Chicago, though its reputation has somewhat improved of late, has not yet erased from its scroll of fame the words 'Yerkes,' 'grey wolves' and 'Satan's invisible world displayed.' Philadelphia is known as 'corrupt but contented,' the most shameless in its infamy of all cities of the western world. St. Louis is known as a city where the boodle aldermen trafficked in the public treasures until bribery was regarded as a venial offence. Boston, proud of its culture, is nevertheless known as the city whose petty graft and multiplication of ward heelers has made its government more expensive than that of any other city in the Christian world."

Dr. Wilcox ignores or greatly underestimates the great forces that are at work in every American city making for higher standards of civic conduct and for efficiency and effectiveness in administration,—factors which have grown so mightily in the last fifteen years that Mr. Bryce, perhaps the most dispassionate and discriminating critic America has ever had, in his recent New York City Club speech was impelled to speak with hopefulness concerning the outlook for American cities.

Those who are interested in the pathology of the subject rather than the